

To: DENR, Division of Environmental Services

From: Liz Merrigan 

31176 471 Ave.

Burbank, SD 57010

Re: Proposed Oil Refinery, Union County, SD

Date: Sept. 27, 2008

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AIR QUALITY
PROGRAM

I live close to the proposed refinery site and think it is a very disheartening reality that South Dakota has canonized economic development to the extent that your department would actually approve an air quality permit that will allow tons of pollutants to be annually spewed into air so currently clean that the provisions of the Clean Air Act do not even apply. What an unholy, ironic concept that this pillaging Texas company has convinced you that computer modeling demonstrates its ability, although it has never built anything of substance before, to maintain pollution levels to the extent that incremental rises will not substantially harm the health of our citizens and our clean air, land, and water.

The governor has been very fond of saying that there is as much carbon monoxide produced in Sioux Falls as will be produced by the refinery. His convenient neglect of the other thousands of tons of pollutants demonstrates his lack of regard for many of his constituents that he characterized as "emotional" as if there are no rational grounds for dissenting against the refinery. I hope that, as an independent agency, you will not follow such a lead, and I urge you to rescind your initial approval for our well-being and future. To say that a few thousand tons of pollutants will not have an impact on our health is disingenuous and unworthy of a department designated to care for the good of all. I do not believe an environmental impact study has yet been finished, so how it is possible that you could approve the air quality permit before such a completion?

Greed is not a natural resource that needs your analysis and support. Please help us by denying the permit. Thank you.